Small Business Development Bill

1086. SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA SEKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to introduce the Small Business Development Bill;

(b) if so, the salient features thereof; and

(c) the measures taken to bring down the interest rates on loans to SSI by the Nationalised Banks?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) and (b) Government have formulated a draft legislation *viz.* "Small Enterprises Development Bill", which seeks to address concerns of the Small Scale Industries (SSI) sector related to credit, marketing, trade protection, labour related returns/ inspections, registration of units, Government purchases, etc.

(c) Reserve Bank of India have already issued instructions to banks to provide credit to small scale industries at interest within a band of 2% plus/minus their Prime Lending Rate (PLR).

Difficulties faced by the SSIs

1087. PROF. M. M. AGARWAL: Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Small Scale Industries are facing difficulties in comparison to the multinational companies under liberalisation policy;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have received any memoranda to redress their grievances from some associations; and

(d) if so, the action taken or proposed to be taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) to (c) Government have occasionally received representations from small scale industries and